



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: Johnny M Mine - NM0032

CERCLIS ID#: NM000607139

Alias Site Name: Ranchers

Address: Latitude 35 degrees 21'45.38" Longitude 107 degrees 43'19.08"



City/County or Parish/State/Zip: McKinley County, New Mexico

Report Type: Pre-CERCLIS Screening

Date: 04/16/10

Author: NMED

RECOMMENDATION:

☐ 1. No Further Remedial Action Planned
Under Superfund (NFRAP)

☒ 2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund

☒ PA ☐ HRS Priority: ☒ High
☐ SI ☐ RI/FS ☐ Low
☐ ESI ☐ RA
☒ Other: Removal

To be performed by: EPA/NMED

☐ 3. Action Deferred to: ☐ RCRA ☐ NRC

☐ 4. Site Being Addressed Under the State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP): ☐ Yes ☐ No

NOTIFY AUTHORITY:

☒ Removal ☐ RCRA ☐ TSCA ☐ CAA ☐ SMCRA
☐ Remedial ☐ State/Tribe ☐ NPDES ☐ NRC ☐ Resource Trustee: _____
☐ CERCLA ☐ Federal ☐ UIC ☐ SPCC ☐ Other: _____
Enforcement Facility

SEND SSSR COPIES TO: ☐ 6SF-AC ☐ 6WQ-SP ☐ ATSDR ☒ State Agency ☐ Tribal Agency

DISCUSSION:

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted a site reconnaissance on July 26, 2010 at the Johnny M Mine site. The mine operated as a wet mine with a shaft completed approximately 1400 feet below the ground surface. The mine stopes were backfilled with mill tailings from the Ambrosia Lake Mill beginning in 1977 to prevent the caving of mine workings, under a Nuclear Regulatory Commission license; the license was terminated in 1993.

NMED observed several subterranean cylindrical metal vaults and vertical plates, a fenced former substation with five presumed former transformer pads, various pipes possibly used for dewatering. The mine shaft was sealed with concrete plugs to seal off the various geologic formations to prevent groundwater communication. There is an abundance of wire exposed in the soil around the site, and one blasting cap was identified during the site visit. There is a residence, a camper and a stable located southwest of the mine site off of one of the mine's haul roads. The residence's water needs are provided by a well drilled on the property to a depth greater than 700 feet below ground surface. NMED collected two groundwater samples from the residential well during the San Mateo Phase II site inspection in November 2010. Uranium was not detected in one sample and was measured at 3.0 ug/l in the second sample. Sodium concentrations in both samples were measured over 1,000,000 ug/l. Groundwater sampling results could indicate potential impact from mining and mine backfilling.

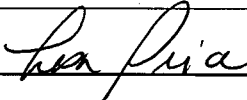
Gamma radiation readings were taken, however, the results may have been influenced higher due to the fact that during the site visit it rained sporadically, however, surface radioactivity measurements at the site were measured to be above

background in the EPA 2009 Aerial Radiological Survey.

The mine site is referred to EPA removal program to assess the residence and other associated structures for potential contamination due to their proximity to the mine site and to survey the area to determine if ore material exists along the haul road. Further site assessment is needed to determine the impact to soil from mine dewatering.

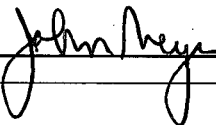
APPROVALS:

Report Reviewed by: Lisa Price
(Site Assessment Manager)

Signature: 

Date: 05/02/11

Disposition
Approved by: John Meyer
(Section Chief 6SF-TR)

Signature: 

Date: 5/4/11